## Palliative Care Futurist: Matching Care to Our Patient's Needs

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# Value = Quality/Cost

Because of the Concentration of Risk and Spending, and the Impact of Palliative Care on Quality *and* Cost, its Principles and Practices are Central to Improving Value

### Mr. B

→ An 88 year old man with dementia admitted via the ED for management of back pain due to prostate cancer, spinal stenosis

and arthritis.

- → Pain is 8/10 on admission, for which he is taking 5 gm of acetaminophen/day.
- → Admitted 3 times in 2 months for pain (2x), falls, and altered mental status due to constipation.
- → His family (83 year old wife) is overwhelmed.



#### Mr. B:

→ Mr. B: "Don't take me to the hospital! Please!"

→ Mrs. B: "He hates being in the hospital, but what could I do? The pain was terrible and I couldn't reach the doctor. I couldn't even move him myself, so I called the ambulance. It was the only thing I could do."



Modified from and with thanks to Dave Casarett

# **Before and After**

#### **Usual Care**

- → 4 calls to 911 in a 3 month period, leading to
- → 4 ED visits and
- → 3 hospitalizations, leading to
- → Hospital acquired infection
- → Functional decline
- → Family distress

#### **Palliative Care**

- → Housecalls referral
- → Pain management
- → 24/7 phone coverage
- → Support for caregiver
- → Meals on Wheels
- → Friendly visitor program
- → No 911 calls, ED visits, or hospitalizations in last 18 months

The Modern Death Ritual: The Emergency Department

Half of older Americans visited the ED in the last month of their life and 75% did so in their last 6 months of life.

Smith AK et al. Health Affairs 2012;31:1277-85.







Prospective		Dementia	No Dementia
Cohort of community dwelling older adults	Medicare SNF use	44.7%	11.4%
	Medicaid NH use	21%	1.4%
	Hospital use	76.2%	51.2%
	Home health use	55.7%	27.3%
Callahan et al. JAGS 2012;60:813-20.	Transitions	11.2	3.8







#### **Palliative Care Improves Value** Quality improves Costs reduced Symptoms Hospital cost/day - Use of hospital, ICU, - Quality of life ED - Length of life - 30 day readmissions Family satisfaction - Hospitality mortality - Family bereavement - Labs, imaging, outcomes pharmaceuticals MD satisfaction

# Palliative Care Improves Quality in Office Setting

Randomized trial simultaneous standard cancer care with palliative care co-management from diagnosis versus control group receiving standard cancer care only:

- Improved quality of life
- Reduced major depression
- Reduced 'aggressiveness' (less chemo < 14d before death, more likely to get hospice, less likely to be hospitalized in last month)
- Improved survival (11.6 mos. vs 8.9 mos., p<0.02)</p>

Temel et al. Early palliative care for patients with non-small-cell lung cancer NEJM2010;363:733-42.





## The 5 Key Characteristics of *Effective* Palliative Care

- →Target the highest risk people
- →Ask people what matters most to them
- →Support family and other caregivers
- →Expert pain/symptom management

→24/7 access

# **Goal Setting**

→Ask the person and family, "What is most important to you?"



## **Families are Home Alone**



- → 40 billion hours unpaid care/yr by 42 million caregivers worth \$450 billion/yr
- → Providing "skilled" care
- → Increased risk disease, death, bankruptcy

aarp.org/ppi http://www.nextstepincare.org/

## **Families Need Help**

- →Mobilizing long term services and supports in the community is key to helping people stay home and out of hospitals.
- →Predictors of success: 24/7 meaningful phone access; high-touch consistent personalized care relationships; focus on social & behavioral health; integrate social supports with medical services.

# **Pain and Symptoms**

Disabling pain and other symptoms reduce independence and quality of life.

HRS- representative sample of 4703 community dwelling older adults 1994-2006

Pain of moderate or greater severity that is "often troubling" is reported by **46%** of older adults in their **last 4 months of life** and is worst among those with *arthritis*.

Smith AK et al. Ann Intern Med 2010;153:563-569









## "I don't want Jenny to think I'm abandoning her."

→Response to my question asking an oncologist what he hoped to accomplish through intrathecal chemotherapy for a patient with brain metastases from lung cancer.

Meier DE. Health Affairs 2014;33:895-8



# Oncologist Offers Intrathecal Chemo (aka most important lesson of my career so far)

- → Jenny asks what I think. I tell her I'll call the oncologist.
- → I ask "I don't have much experience with this procedure. What are you hoping we can accomplish with it?"
- → He says "It won't help her." Long pause.
- → I ask "Do you want me to encourage her to go ahead with it?"

## →He says, "I don't want Jenny to think I am abandoning her."

# Conclusion

- →Problem?
- →Lack of Training
- →Solution?
- →Training











- → Clinical courses for all disciplines and all specialties
- → Recognition strategies: Designation in Pain Management & Communication Skills
- → CE Credits for MD, PA, RN, APRN, social work, case managers
- → Case-based, interactive
- → Compatible on computers, tablets and smartphones
- → Comprehensive reporting on course completions

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CAPC Online Curriculum Safe + Effective Pain Management								
Comprehen sive Pain Assessment	Matchin the Drug Class to Pain	g	Patient Factors Influencing Prescribing	Assessing Risk of Substance Use Disorder	Opic Trial Desi Effic Safe	s: ign, acy and	Prescribing an Opioid	Prescribing Short-Acting Opioids: 4 Cases
Monitoring for Efficacy, Side Effects Substance Use Disorder	Convert from Sh Acting to Long-Ao Opioids	ort- o cting	Opioid Conversions	Advanced Conversions and Opioid Side Effects	and Cont	cial ulations Patient- trolled Igesia	Managing Patients at Risk for Substance Use Disorder	Pain Man- agement: Putting it All Together
Communication Skills								
Deliver Serious News	0		cussing ognosis	Clarifyin Goals of Care	<u> </u>	Adva Care Plan	}	Running a Family Meeting

2016 Clinical Curriculum Symptom Management							
Shortness of Breath			-	ausea & omiting	Anxiety	Depression	
Whole-Person Care         Care Coordination       Assessing & Supporting the Family Caregiver							
Disease Trajectories (Coming 4 <sup>th</sup> Q '16)							
Congestive Failure (CHF		Chronic Obstructive Dementia Pulmonary Disease (COPD)				nentia	

C		lum: Symptom ement
	The likely causes of Anne's nausea are cl therapy, and anticipatory. Which of the are involved in mediating Anne's nausea Select all that apply. Vestibular	following emetic pathways
		•
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	C Curricul agement	lum: Pain	
_	CAMPUS	≡ MENU	
	Mike's pain has been well-controlled reduce his equianalgesic morphine do	on oxycodone. By what factor should you sse?	
	0%	25%	
	0	0	
	50%	75%	
	0	0	
		Check	
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## >65,000 total course completions in 14 months→ 80% by front line clinicians

"I am loving the course. I have an awesome attending physician that has taught me a lot in the past year regarding pain management - the course is not only reinforcing or clarifying material, but I have also learned new things."

"The learning format (quizzes throughout the course content) is very **effective** for me." "I liked the layout of the communications courses. To present the situation followed by a question and the rationales for the incorrect answers is an **excellent learning strategy** 

"Well constructed training program. This is an excellent format and review/learning experience."





## Case Study of ACO-Palliative Care Integration → Sharp HealthCare in California

Lots of others, for example:

- → UnityPoint Health System in Iowa
- → ProHealth, NY
- → Banner Health System
- →OSF System in Illinois
- → Partners Health System in Massachusetts
- → @HOMe program in Michigan















# We have a lot to do, but, THERE IS REAL PROGRESS

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## Voices from the 1990's: Ovarian Cancer and Neuropathic Pain

"I had the most excruciating pain I had ever experienced. The pain medication...did not even begin to penetrate the pain. I thought I was going to die..."

Ferrell et al. JPSM 2003;25:528-38.

"Every day I remind myself that my inner and outer life are based on the labors of other men [and women], living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received and am

still receiving."

Albert Einstein, 1935 The World As I See It



